

## Message Text

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67

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT E-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 SS-15 NSC-05 L-03 H-02

PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /062 W

----- 103531

R 191700Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5234

INFO USMISSION USBERLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, WB, UK, FR, US

SUBJECT: PAA BERLIN CHARTERS TO LONDON AND PARIS

REF: BONN 19854

1. SUMMARY: FONOFF HAS MADE LOW KEY INQUIRY REGARDING BRITISH AND FRENCH RESTRICTIONS ON PAA CHARTERS FROM BERLIN OCCASIONED BY RECENT PRESS COVERAGE. IN CONSULTATION WITH BRITISH AND FRENCH WE HAVE RESPONDED BY CONFIRMING ACCURACY OF AT LEAST SOME OF THE REPORTS WITHOUT VOLUNTEERING ANY MORE INFORMATION THAN NECESSARY. WE THINK INQUIRY WAS HELPFUL IN UNDERSCORING OUR ARGUMENTS THAT ALLIES SHOULD PURSUE A FORTHCOMING CHARTER POLICY IN WEST BERLIN. END SUMMARY.

2. FONOFF OFFICIAL KRONECK CALLED DEC. 17 TO INQUIRE ABOUT ARTICLES HE HAD READ IN THE BERLIN PRESS (TAGESSPIEGEL AND BILD ZEITUNG) REPORTING THAT THE FRENCH AND BRITISH GOVERNMENTS HAD DENIED PAA LANDING AUTHORITY FOR BERLIN ORIGIN CHARTER PROGRAMS TO PARIS AND LONDON. HASTENING TO POINT OUT HE HAD NO WISH TO

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INTERFERE IN COMMERCIAL BERLIN CIVIL AIR MATTERS, HE

BELIEVED THE POSSIBILITY THAT BERLINERS WERE  
BEING DENIED TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES WARRANTED HIS INTEREST.  
HE THEREFORE WISHED TO ASK THREE QUESTIONS:

- A. WERE THE PRESS REPORTS ACCURATE?
- B. HOW MANY PAA FLIGHTS WERE INVOLVED IN THE DENIALS?
- C. COULD OTHER AIRLINES PROVIDE COMPENSATING CAPACITY  
AT PRICES EQUIVALENT TO OR LOWER THAN PAA'S?

3. IN THE ABSENCE OF BRITISH AND FRENCH CAA'S WE CON-  
SULTED WITH BONN GROUP REPS CARTER AND DE BOISSIEU,  
POINTING OUT THAT KRONECK'S INQUIRY UNDERScoreD  
POLITICAL ARGUMENTS WE HAD ADVANCED EARLIER SUPPORTING  
THE NEED FOR AN OPENHENDED AND LIBERAL CHARTER POLICY  
FOR WEST BERLIN. ALTHOUGH WE WOULD HAVE PREFERRED NOT  
TO HAVE ATTENTION DRAWN TO THE PROBLEM, WE WERE NOT  
SURPRISED THAT THE AFFECTED PARTIES IN BERLIN HAD BEEN  
TEMPTED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER PUBLICLY. INDEED, WE  
FELT PAA AND UNGER HAD SHOWN CONSIDERABLE FOREBEARANCE  
IN KEEPING THE STORY UNDER WRAPS UNTIL NOW. EMB CAA  
SAID HE SAW NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO TELL KRONECK THAT  
THE DESCRIPTION OF THE SITUATION, AT LEAST AS IT  
APPEARED IN THE TAGESSPIEGEL, WAS ESSENTIALLY CORRECT.  
WE SAW NO PARTICULAR REASON TO DISCUSS THE MATTER IN  
ANY GREATER DETAIL WITH KRONECK AT THIS POINT, BUT WE  
FELT IT ONLY APPROPRIATE TO POINT OUT THAT THE QUESTION  
OF ALTERNATIVE CAPACITY WAS SUBJECT TO SEVERAL POSSIBLE  
INTERPRETATIONS. WE LIKEWISE INTENDED TO ASSURE KRONECK  
THAT THE U.S. SHARED HIS CONCERN FOR THE PSYCHOLOGICAL -  
POLITICAL FACTORS UNDERLYING PROBLEMS RELATING TO THE  
BERLIN CIVIL AIR REGIME, AND THAT WE WOULD DO EVERYTHING  
POSSIBLE TO RESOLVE THE PROBLEM QUICKLY.

4. CARTER QUICKLY AGREED THAT THE ABOVE RESPONSE WAS THE

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ONLY ONE POSSIBLE, AND ACKNOWLEDGED THAT THIS DISPLAY OF FRG INTEREST CLEARLY INDICATED THE NEED FOR AN EXPEDITIOUS DECISION FROM LONDON. DE BOISSIEU TOYED WITH THE IDEA OF REFERRING KRONECK TO PAA AND UNGER ON THE BASIS THAT CHARTERS TO OVERSEAS DESTINATIONS WERE NOT IGS MATTERS. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION HE CONCEDED THAT OUR APPROACH WAS REALLY THE ONLY FEASIBLE ONE. HE ADDED THAT HE HOPED WE UNDERSTOOD THE FRENCH EMBASSY HERE WAS OPPOSED TO THE SGAC'S RESTRICTIVE VIEW OF BERLIN CHARTER QUESTION AND (BASED ON POLITICAL CONSIDERATIONS) HAD WEIGHED-IN HEAVILY IN SUPPORT OF A MORE FORTHCOMING APPROACH. HE INTIMATED THAT THE SITUATION IN PARIS WAS ANALOGOUS TO THAT IN LONDON, I.E. A BUREAUCRATIC SQUABBLE BETWEEN THE QUAI AND CIVIL AIR AUTHORITIES HAD DEVELOPED OVER THE ISSUE. ACCORDING TO DE BOISSIEU, THE SGAC WOULD HAVE EVENTUALLY APPROVED PAA'S APPLICATION FOR HOLIDAY CHARTERS TO PARIS, A FACT HE BELIEVED WAS OF SOME SIGNIFICANCE FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF A GOF CONSENSUS ON THE MATTER. (HE RECOGNIZED, OF COURSE, THAT THE SGAC'S LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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STALLING TACTICS HAD IN PRACTICE LOST PAA THE HOLIDAY BUSINESS.)

5. WE HAVE SINCE REPLIED TO KRONECK ALONG THE LINES PARA 3 ABOVE AND SUGGESTED HE CONTACT THE OTHER CAA'S (OR THEIR STAND-INS) WITH THE SAME QUESTIONS. COMMENT: WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION KRONECK WAS ACTING ON HIS OWN IN ANTICIPATION OF REQUESTS FOR BRIEFING FROM HIGHER FONOFF ECHELONS. HIS QUERY WAS NONETHELESS HELPFUL, WE THINK, IN PROVIDING THE BRITISH AND FRENCH EMBASSIES WITH ADDITIONAL AMMUNITION FOR DEMONSTRATING TO THEIR CAPITALS THAT POLITICAL FACTORS WOULD SUPPORT GRANTING PAA/BERLIN ACCESS TO

THE LONDON AND PARIS CHARTER MARKETS.  
HILLENBRAND

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## Message Attributes

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